UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/C.5/47/91
23 March 1993

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-seventh session
FIFTH COMMITTEE
Agenda item 111

SCALE OF ASSESSMENTS FOR THE APPORTIONMENT OF THE EXPENSES OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Letter dated 18 March 1993 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter from His Excellency Mr. Vladislav Jovanović, Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, addressed to you (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under agenda item 111.

(Signed) Dragomir DJOKIĆ
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

ANNEX

Letter from the Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to the Secretary-General

I would like to inform you that the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia has been following with attention the considerations to determine the contributions of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to the United Nations budget. I wish to underline in the first place that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia as a Member of the United Nations, continuing the personality of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia under international law, and as a founding Member of the United Nations, will continue to fulfil its obligations under the United Nations Charter and the decisions of the respective United Nations bodies. Accordingly the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia will also meet its obligations concerning the United Nations budget.

In view of the fact that the solution proposed in the previous considerations of this matter within the Committee on Contributions and in the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly does not fully reflect the complex situation in the territory of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, I would like to draw your attention to some points which could facilitate the adoption of an objective and just decision on the proper contribution of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the newly admitted States Members of the United Nations from the territory of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, including the payment modalities of the outstanding debt of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

The contribution rate of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to the United Nations budget can be calculated exclusively on the basis of the figures concerning the present gross national product and national income of the Republics of Serbia and Montenegro and their respective populations, which are already incorporated in the United Nations statistics. The previously established method of taking the 10-year average national income of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia is unrealistic and objectively outdated owing to the consequences of the war in the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, implementation of the United Nations sanctions on the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and special difficulties created by 500,000 refugees living in the territory of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, as a result of which the accepted principle of "payment ability" must be taken into account.

It is unacceptable to include the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in the contribution rate of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia because that State is not an integral part of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and consequently the latter cannot be held responsible for its obligations.

The outstanding debt of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia until the admission of the former Yugoslav Republics to the United Nations or, possibly, until their proclamation of independence, will be reimbursed by the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in accordance with the constitutional provisions concerning the assumption of international obligations of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (reserving the right that these funds be reimbursed from the secessionist Republics as allocated to them by the final decision on

division of assets and liabilities of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia within the Geneva Conference).

I am convinced that all circumstances have been met for the United Nations Secretariat to modify its methodology of presenting the debt of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, respectively to separate the presentation of this debt from the liabilities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in the future.

(Signed) Vladislav JOVANOVIĆ

UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/C.5/47/92
29 March 1993

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-seventh session
FIFTH COMMITTEE
Agenda items 103 and 104

REVIEW OF THE EFFICIENCY OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL FUNCTIONING OF THE UNITED NATIONS

PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1992-1993

Letter dated 29 March 1993 from the Chairman of the Committee on Conferences addressed to the Chairman of the Fifth Committee

The General Assembly, in paragraph 2 (c) of resolution 47/202 C, requested the Secretary-General to submit, if necessary, recommendations on possible restructuring of the Office of Conference Services at its forty-eighth session through the Committee on Conferences and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ).

Inasmuch as the Secretary-General's proposals on the restructuring of the Office of Conference Services were to be contained in the revised estimates for 1992-1993, at its organizational meeting, held on 2 March 1993, the Committee on Conferences decided to consider the matter in March prior to consideration thereof in the Fifth Committee. Accordingly, at its 344th meeting, held on 26 March 1993, the Committee considered the revised estimates for the Office of Conference Services for 1992-1993.

The Committee noted that the purpose of the restructuring was to enhance the efficiency and smooth functioning of the Secretariat and was of the view that the process should be undertaken in a comprehensive and integrated manner and within a specified period of time.

The Committee also noted that the proposed restructuring within the Department of Administration and Management would result in a gap between the head of the Department at the level of under-secretary-general and heads of offices at the D-2 level.

The Committee sought assurance that the redistribution of publishing functions among three organizational units, namely the Office of Conference

Services, the Office of General Services and the Department of Public Information, would not result in increased costs or delays or inefficiencies in the processing of parliamentary documentation, noting that there was a close link between documents processing and the effective management of meetings. The Committee also drew attention to its mandate to monitor the policy of the Organization on publications, and requested the Secretariat to ensure that appropriate services were provided to the Committee on Conferences through close coordination between the Office of Conference Services and the Department of Public Information.

(Signed) Mahmoud BARIMANI